

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 21-1901V

UNPUBLISHED

GEORGE GRACE,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Chief Special Master Corcoran

Filed: October 14, 2022

Special Processing Unit (SPU);
Damages Decision Based on Proffer;
Influenza (Flu) Vaccine; Guillain-
Barre Syndrome (GBS)

Matthew F. Belanger, Faraci Lange, LLP, Rochester, NY, for Petitioner.

Naseem Kourosh, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent.

DECISION AWARDING DAMAGES¹

On September 24, 2021, George Grace filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*² (the “Vaccine Act”). Petitioner alleges that he suffered from Guillain-Barre Syndrome (“GBS”) as a result of an influenza vaccine he received on February 21, 2019. Petition at ¶1. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On October 4, 2022, a ruling on entitlement was issued, finding Petitioner entitled to compensation for his GBS. ECF No. 28. On October 14, 2022, Respondent filed a proffer on award of compensation (“Proffer”) indicating Petitioner should be awarded \$100,979.82, comprised of \$100,500.00 in pain and suffering and \$479.82 in past out-of-pocket expenses. Proffer at 1. In the Proffer, Respondent represented that Petitioner agrees with the proffered award. *Id.* Based on the record as a whole, I find that Petitioner is entitled to an award as stated in the Proffer.

¹ Because this unpublished Decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, I am required to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2012) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). **This means the Decision will be available to anyone with access to the internet.** In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), Petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, I agree that the identified material fits within this definition, I will redact such material from public access.

² National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all section references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2012).

Pursuant to the terms stated in the attached Proffer, **I award Petitioner a lump sum payment of \$100,979.82, representing \$100,500.00 in pain and suffering and \$479.82 in past unreimbursed expenses, in the form of a check payable to Petitioner.** This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under Section 15(a).

The Clerk of Court is directed to enter judgment in accordance with this decision.³

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Brian H. Corcoran
Brian H. Corcoran
Chief Special Master

³ Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), entry of judgment can be expedited by the parties' joint filing of notice renouncing the right to seek review.

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OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS**

GEORGE GRACE,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH
AND HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

No. 21-1901V (ECF)
Chief Special Master Corcoran

RESPONDENT’S PROFFER ON AWARD OF COMPENSATION

On September 24, 2021, George Grace (“petitioner”) filed a petition for compensation under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, 42 U.S.C. §§ 300aa-1 to -34 (the “Vaccine Act”). Petitioner alleged that petitioner suffered from Guillain-Barré Syndrome resulting from an influenza vaccination. ECF No. 1 (Petition) at 1.

On September 30, 2022, respondent filed a report conceding that compensation under the Vaccine Act is appropriate in this case. ECF No. 27.

On October 4, 2020, the Chief Special Master issued a Ruling on Entitlement, finding that petitioner is entitled to compensation. ECF No. 28. On the same date, the Chief Special Master issued a Damages Order. ECF No. 29.

I. Items of Compensation

Based upon the evidence of record, respondent proffers that petitioner should be awarded \$100,979.82. The award is comprised of the following: \$100,500.00 for pain and suffering, and \$479.82 for past expenses. This amount represents all elements of compensation to which petitioner would be entitled under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a). Petitioner agrees.

II. Form of the Award

The parties recommend that compensation provided to petitioner should be made through a lump sum payment of **\$100,979.82**, in the form of a check payable to petitioner. Petitioner agrees.

Petitioner is a competent adult. Evidence of guardianship is not required in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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DATED: October 14, 2022